

Remarks:

This amendment is submitted in an earnest effort to advance this case to issue without delay. The examiner has indicated that the case contains allowable subject matter.

Entry of this amendment after final action is in order because it:

1. Cures a formal problem by eliminating a new-matter rejection.
2. Places the case in better form for appeal by reducing issues.
3. Places the case prima facie in condition for allowance.

Reconsideration of the rejection of claim 1 is respectfully requested. This claim explicitly describes a bottom plate that is "bent inwardly toward the interior of the body." In addition FIGS. 1, 2, 7, 8, and 11 clearly show a structure that is downwardly concave and upwardly convex (In fact the undersigned would gladly add such language to claim 1 if that would make a difference.) The language is clear.

On the contrary, US 6,779,431 of Honlinger shows a structure where the bottom plate 1.3 is clearly and undeniably bent outward and downward, the opposite of the system defined in claim 1. Thus Honlinger does not meet the express language of claim 1.

The examiner's comment in paragraph 6 of the action that "the lower plate 1.3 of the vehicle is bent 'inward' toward the center of the vehicle" is completely wrong. No such inward bending is shown, only outer edges that are bent inward or upward, something that is plainly not intended by the express language of claim 1.


The rejection under §102 on Honlinger is mistaken because an express limitation of claim 1, the inwardly bent bottom plate, is not seen in this reference. A rejection under §103 is similarly out of the question because nothing in Honlinger suggests reversing the bend of the bottom plate.

For these reasons all the claims are clearly in condition for allowance. Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

If only minor problems that could be corrected by means of a telephone conference stand in the way of allowance of this

case, the examiner is invited to call the undersigned to make the necessary corrections.

Respectfully submitted,
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Enclosure: None.